

## Message Text

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66  
ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 CIAE-00

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FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2057  
SECDEF WASHDC  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
USCINCEUR  
USNMR SHAPE  
CINCUSA  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

S E C R E T USNATO 4838

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/81  
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MCAP  
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE REMOVAL OF AFCENT HEADQUARTERS FROM THE NETHERLANDS

REF: A. USNATO 4544  
B. USNATO 4685

SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE OUTLINES STATUS OF NATO PLANNING  
EFFORT AIMED AT REORGANIZATION OF ALLIED TACTICAL AIR FORCES  
IN CENTRAL REGION AND, IN PARTICULAR, FOCUSES ON  
ACTIONS TAKEN BY NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO INFORM ALLIES  
OF STATUS OF PLANNING. END SUMMARY.

1. IN VIEW OF EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN REPORTED REFTELS  
REGARDING POSSIBLE REMOVAL OF AFCENT HQ FROM THE NETHERLANDS,  
SECRET

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MISSION WISHES TO REVIEW SEQUENCE OF KEY EVENTS AND ACTIONS  
TAKEN TO INFORM NATIONS DIRECTLY CONCERNED. THESE ARE:

A. AT DPC MINISTERIAL DEC 8, 1971, SECRETARY LAIRD

REQUESTED THAT THE MILITARY COMMITTEE BE ASKED TO CONSIDER  
THE ORGANIZATION OF AIR FORCES IN THE CENTRAL REGION AS A  
MATTER OF PRIORITY.

B. DPC MINISTERS ON DECEMBER 6, 1972, FOLLOWING  
STATEMENTS MADE IN PLENARY SESSION BY SECRETARY LAIRD AND  
LORD CARRINGTON, INVITED THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO  
FORWARD THEIR REPORT ON THE REORGANIZATION, COMMAND AND  
CONTROL OF TACTICAL AIR FORCES IN THE CENTRAL REGION FOR  
CONSIDERATION AT THEIR NEXT MEETING.

C. SACEUR ON APRIL 1, 1973 FORWARDED TO THE MILITARY  
COMMITTEE OUTLINE PLANS FOR THE REORGANIZATION.

D. ON JULY 24 THE MILITARY COMMITTEE PROVIDED SACEUR  
WITH GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A PLAN TO IMPLEMENT A  
REORGANIZATION OF ALLIED AIR FORCES IN THE CENTRAL REGION.  
THESE GUIDELINES PROVIDED FOR, INTER ALIA, THE FORMATION OF  
A SEPARATE AIRCENT HEADQUARTERS COLLOCATED IN BOTH PEACE  
AND WAR WITH AFCENT, POINTING OUT THE IMPORTANCE THE MC  
ATTACHED TO ULTIMATE COLLOCATION IN PEACE AND WAR.

E. DURING THE ENSUING PLANNING EFFORT WHICH COMMENCED  
IN AUGUST AT AFCENT, CINCENT PROVIDED TO SACEUR A SERIES OF  
WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORTS. THESE PROGRESS REPORTS, ADDRESSED  
FOR INFORMATION TO THE MINISTERS OF DEFENSE OF THE NATIONS  
CONCERNED (BELGIUM, CANADA, GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS, UNITED  
KINGDOM AND UNITED STATES), ADVISED THAT TWO OPTIONS FOR  
COLLOCATION WERE BEING CONSIDERED ON THE BASIS OF MILITARY  
MERIT AND RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS. ONE OPTION POSTULATES  
PEACE COLLOCATION AT BRUSSUM; THE SECOND, AT RAMSTEIN.

F. DURING AUGUST AND EARLY SEPTEMBER THE DIRECTOR OF  
THE AFCENT AIR PLANNING GROUP (GENERAL JONES, COMMANDER, 4TH  
ATAF) VISITED THE CAPITALS OF CONCERNED NATIONS IN THE  
CENTRAL REGION AND DISCUSSED THE TWO SPECIFIC COLLOCATION  
OPTIONS WITH MINISTERS OF DEFENSE AND/ OR CHIEFS OF DEFENSE  
SECRET

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AND AIR STAFFS.

G. ON SEPT 24 CINCENT FORWARDED HIS PROPOSED PLAN TO  
SHAPE; COPIES WERE ALSO PROVIDED TO THE NATIONS CONCERNED.

2. AS TO THE CURRENT AND PROJECTED STATUS OF THE PLANNING  
EFFORT, THE SHAPE STAFF IS CURRENTLY REVIEWING CINCENT'S  
PROPOSAL; AND IT IS SHAPE'S INTENTION TO FORWARD THE  
REQUIRED PLAN TO THE MILITARY COMMITTEE BEFORE THE ESTAB-  
LISHED DATE OF NOV 1. THE SHAPE POSITION WILL BE BASED ON  
MILITARY FACTORS; THEIR SUBMISSION WILL, HOWEVER, RECOGNIZE  
THE NEED FOR EVALUATION OF RELATED POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC  
FACTORS BY HIGHER NATO AUTHORITIES.

3. MISSION UNDERSTANDS THAT GENERAL GOODPASTER HAS FORWARDED CLARIFICATION SUBSTANTIALLY AS ABOVE BY PERSONAL LETTER TO LUNS. USNATO DOES NOT PLAN TO PURSUE MATTER WITH ALLIES. HOWEVER, IF ANY ALLY RAISES THIS ISSUE AGAIN, USNATO PLANS TO DRAW ON ABOVE INFORMATION TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT.

RUMSFELD

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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**TAGS:** PFOR, NATO, MCAP  
**To:** STATE  
SECDEF INFO BONN  
THE HAGUE  
USCINCEUR  
USNMR SHAPE  
CINCUSA  
BRUSSELS

LONDON

OTTAWA

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